THE TENTH DAY.

Thursday, the 12th March, 1931.

The Assembly met again at 11-30 A. M. on Thursday, the 12th March 1931, the Dewan presiding.

165. Needs of the Chirayinkil taluk.

MR. K. RAGHAVAN PILLAI (*Chirayinkil taluk, Group II*) speaking in malayalam, urged the following needs of the Chirayinkil taluk :—

The courts in the Chirayinkil taluk were located at Attingal, the eastern end of the taluk. About 75 per cent. of the civil and criminal cases on the files of the Attingal courts came from Warkala and its neighbourhood. Great delays arose in the disposal of cases on account of the fact that the cases were far too numerous and the trials had to be adjusted to the convenience of the Vakils. In consequence, the inhabitants of the localities included in Group II of the Chirayinkil taluk experienced serious difficulties. It would be to their convenience to shift the Attingal Additional Munsiff's court to Warkala.

A Magistrate's Court at Warkala was a desideratum. Either a new Court should be opened there or the Magistrate's Court at Attingal should be transferred to that place. The Chirayinkil Tahsildar should be invested with first class Magisterial powers.

The number of girls attending the vernacular school for boys at Warkala was sufficient for a separate middle school for girls. A large number of girls had discontinued studies on account of their unwillingness to study in boys' schools. As there was not sufficient accommodation in the boys' school, it was proposed to transfer the pupils in the lower classes to other schools. That was not the best solution of the problem. Instead, the girls in the boys' school should be transfered to a new middle school for girls.

In the areas comprised in Group II of the Chirayinkil taluk, no medical aid was available to about 60,000 people living in the *pakuthies* of Chemmaruthi, Cheruniyur, Pallickal, Madavur, Ottur, Karavaram and Navaikulam. A dispensary should be established at a place which was convenient to the inhabitants of the several *pakuthies*.

The snakes of Warkala were particularly venomous. Every year several people in the locality died of snake-bite. A *Vishavaidyasala* should therefore be established at Warkala. If that were not possible immediately, the existing private *Vishavaidyasala* at Venkulam should be awarded grant-in-aid and encouraged to carry on its beneficent work.

The Government did not encourage the homeopathic system of treatment. They should either establish a homeopathic dispensary in the taluk or award grant-in-aid to one of the existing dispensaries.

Grazing grounds had of late become very rare. It was necessary to earmark and enclose lands in every *pakuthi* for grazing purposes. In the Chemmaruthi *pakuthi*, there was an old grazing ground measuring 50 acres and 69 cents. About 12,000 milch cows grazed in those grounds and they were the sole means of livelihood to the inhabitants of several *pakuthies*. The depressed classes had occupied those grazing grounds and were trying to get them registered in their names. When there were *puduval* and *poramboke* lands available for registry to the depressed classes, it would be doing an enormous wrong to the inhabitants of numerous *pakuthies* to assign those grazing grounds to the depressed classes.

It was necessary to construct a lock at the bar at Idava or Paravoor. As there was no lock in those places, about 11,000 acres of land were practically left uncultivated for fear of inundation. The Government were annually spending about Rs. 2,000 for opening and closing the bar. That was not of any lasting benefit. The lock should therefore be immediately constructed.

A bridge should be constructed over the Warkala *todu* to connect the Ayiroor and Venkulam roads. A foot-bridge would not be sufficient as it was unsuitable for cart traffic. A bridge at the Kayikara *kadavu* was also a long-felt want.

The Kallampalam-Ponganad foot-path and the Njekkad-Poovankal foot-path should be converted into cart-roads. The former foot-path was fit for cart traffic for a distance of three miles.

The Kollampuzha-Dalavapuram trace should be completed and the necessary culverts and bridges should be constructed.

The Nadayara public market was a very important one in the Chirayinkil taluk. The landing places near the market were in a deplorable condition. Steps should be constructed at the landing places. Lights also should be provided at the landing places.

Culverts should be constructed on the Cherukunnam *todu* and the Muttapalam *todu* on the Warkala-Paripally road.

The Warkala-Kallampalam road in the Chirayinkil taluk was next in importance to the Trivandrum-Quilon road. The road was not maintained properly. It should be widened wherever necessary and metalled.

Government should do all that was necessary and possible for the improvement of agriculture in the taluk. Most of the old irrigation tanks had become useless. They should be restored and made useful to the ryots.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Regarding the provision of more grazing grounds and the conservation of existing ones—that question is under investigation and orders will be passed after the report from the Conservator of Forests is received. I may tell you that the policy of the Government is, as far as possible, not to allow blocks of land which have been set apart as grazing grounds to be encroached upon. It is

only in exceptional cases that such lands are registered. You referred to a particular instance where registry is contemplated. I will make enquiries in regard to that. It has also been brought to the notice of Government that some plots which have been set apart for grazing purposes are not fit for that purpose. I have called for a general list of the blocks of land that have been reserved as grazing grounds. Upon the receipt of that list and on the basis of the enquiry made by the officers concerned, orders will be passed.

You mentioned the necessity for the construction of a lock at Idava bar. That is a matter which requires investigation. In regard to other public works, they will all be referred to the Chief Engineer or the Road Boards as the case may be.

As regards irrigation works, there is a Minor irrigation Committee sitting. You may make your representations to that committee and when it presents its report that will be considered.

166. Needs of the Nadars.

MR. A. GURUNATHA MARTANDA NADAR, (*Nominated*) speaking in Tamil, dealt with the needs of the Hindu Nadars. The Hindu Nadars suffered a great deal on account of the paucity of members of the community in representative institutions and local bodies. For some time past, the community had been clamouring for representation in the Legislative Council. The community had the largest population among the minority communities and their grievances would not be redressed without a representative in the Council. The member recognised the difficulties of the Government, as the number of seats allotted for nomination was only very limited. At the same time, it had to be remembered that it was not possible for members of his community to get into the Council by election. A member of the community should be nominated to the Legislative Council.

The member then referred to the inadequacy of seats allotted for his community in the S. M. P. Assembly. The necessity had been urged in previous sessions of the Assembly and the reply of the Government was that, as the Assembly was not a voting body, there was no use in nominating more than one member. If that was so, it could not be understood why four or five members were nominated from certain other communities. The member, who was nominated, was allowed to speak only on two subjects at a session and he had to represent all the grievances of the community in thirty minutes. At least two members should be nominated from his community for the next session of the Assembly.

The Fees Concession Committee in South Travancore, which was composed of representatives of elected members of the Assembly, were not in a position to understand the difficulties of the depressed classes. They had recently come to the opinion that half fee concessions should not be granted to the pupils of the Nadar community. Either a member elected from the representatives of the depressed classes in the Assembly or two members from the community should be nominated to the Committee.